

Message Text

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12

ACTION NASA-04

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 SCI-06 IO-14 PM-07 DODE-00 DRC-01

CIAE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 /055 W

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O R 161033Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO AMEMBASSY MONROVIA IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 5014

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

UNCLAS LAGOS 6448

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: WMO, OCIR

SUBJECT: NASA SHIP VISIT

REFS: A. STATE 146240

B. USDAO LAGOS 149

1. EMBASSY DESIRES MAKE SIMPLE DIRECT REQUEST TO FMG TO AUTHORIZE ENTRY OF VANGUARD CONTRACTOR PERSONNEL (REF A). WE COULD ASK MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS TO INSTRUCT NIGERIAN EMBASSY MONROVIA ISSUE VISAS JULY 19-24 WHEN THEY WILL BE IN PORT. BUT EVEN SIMPLER APPROACH WOULD BE TO ASK FMG TO GIVE BLANKET AUTHORIZATION FOR CONTRACTOR PERSONNEL AND CREW AS PART OF AUTHORIZATION (REQUIRED SOONER OR LATER) FOR SHIP VISIT ITSELF.

2. WHICHEVER APPROACH WE TAKE, WE NEED TO KNOW MORE ABOUT STATUS OF VANGUARD VISIT (HENCE REF. B). COULD YOU ALSO PLEASE REPLY IMMEDIATELY TO FOLLOWING: DOES VANGUARD OPERATE AS CIVILIAN OR MILITARY SHIP? (VISIT PROTOCOL DEPENDS GREATLY ON THIS DISTINCTION.) DOES MR. CAMMAROTA SEE ANY REASON WHY CONTRACT PERSONNEL WOULD REQUIRE INDIVIDUAL VISAS IF FMG GIVES BLANKET AUTHORIZATION? DO YOU KNOW ANY REASON IN ADVANCE WHICH WOULD PRECLUDE PROCESSING OF VISAS BY NIGERIAN EMBASSY MONROVIA JULY 19-24 IF AUTHORIZED BY MEA? ARE YOU PLANNING PROTOCOL VISITS, SHIP TOURS, PRESS CONFERENCE, SOCIAL UNCLASSIFIED

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EVENTS, ETC. WHILE VANGUARD IN PORT?

3. ARMED WITH THIS INFORMATION, WE WILL DISCUSS VISIT WITH FMG AND ADVISE YOU JULY 19 OR SOONER HOW WE EXPECT OBTAIN AUTHORIZATION FOR CONTRACT PERSONNEL.

4. FYI. IF IT COMES, VANGUARD WILL BE FIRST USG VESSEL OF ANY KIND TO MAKE OFFICIAL VISIT TO NIGERIA IN SEVERAL YEARS. APART FROM ITS PURELY SCIENTIFIC INTEREST, VISIT WOULD THEREFORE BE MORE THAN ROUTINE EVENT IN OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS. THIS HELPS EXPLAIN WHY WE NEED ADDITIONAL INFORMATIONN PRIOR TO RAISING SUBJECT WITH FMG. END FYI.
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